

CANDIDATE FILING FOR FEDERAL OFFICE

Any candidate filing for a Federal office must:

1. Complete a candidate filing form.

The candidate filing form is available through the Secretary of State's office or through the local county clerk/election commissioner's office. Either location can provide assistance with completing the form.

2. Provide for payment of the filing fee.

Candidate filing fees are to be paid to the "Secretary of State". Most fees are one percent of the salary of the office. Acceptable forms of payment include check, money order or cash. This section does not apply to an office with no filing fees.

3. Submit a financial statement according to FEC instructions.

The candidate will need to contact the Federal Election Commission for the rules and regulations regarding financial disclosure requirements. Their address is as follows: 999 E Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20463. Their telephone numbers are 800-424-9530 or 202-376-5140.

As a result of an Attorney General's opinion and subsequent litigation, the Accountability and Disclosure Commission has decided not to enforce the Campaign Finance Limitation Act (CFLA) for the 2012 election cycle. Included in the CFLA requirements is an affidavit whether a candidate intends to abide or not abide by spending limitations. State statute requires a copy of the affidavit to be filed with the Secretary of State at the time of filing for a covered office.

Since the Accountability and Disclosure Commission is not requiring submission of the affidavit, the Secretary of State **will not** require a copy at the time of filing.

The filing form and receipt for filing fees must be submitted to the Secretary of State's office prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day of the candidate filing deadline. For office holders the candidate filing deadline is February 15th and for non-office holders the candidate filing deadline is March 1st.

Filing for office by fax is permissible with the following restrictions. First, the fax must be received by the Secretary of State's office by the filing deadline. Second, the original filing form must be received in the Secretary of State's office no later than seven days after the filing deadline with a legible postmark bearing a date on or before the filing deadline.

Any questions regarding candidate filings can be directed to the Secretary of State's office or to the county clerk/election commissioner's office.